

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application. Applicant amends claims 1-2, 5, 8-9, and 11 for clarification, and refers to page 14, lines 7-23 and page 15, lines 20-34 of the specification for exemplary embodiments of and support for the claimed invention. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,597,689 to Chiu et al. Applicant amends the claims in a good faith effort to clarify the invention as distinguished from the cited reference, and respectfully traverses the rejection.

The Examiner maintained that the PVC-to-SVC translation described on col. 19, lines 5-12 of Chiu et al. allegedly discloses the claimed connection change because “traffic flows in both directions.” Chiu et al. merely describe DSL (IMAS 101), which the Examiner relied upon as alleged disclosure of the claimed “associated switching unit,” and ATM switch 133, which the Examiner relied upon as alleged disclosure of the claimed “associated switching unit” or “external switching unit,” as being connectable through PVC 181 or SVC 182, and that different types of connections are connectable (PVC-to-SVC and SVC-to-SVC) via IMAS 101, as shown in Fig. 2 thereof. Chiu et al. do not disclose, however, changing the connection type in the connection data for an established connection in DSL or ATM switch 133.

In other words, Chiu et al., as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, do not disclose,

“[a] connection data change device, comprising:
a connection data management part configured to store and manage connection data on a connection of an associated switching unit, in which the connection data change device is provided, with an external switching unit; and
a change operation part configured to change a type of the connection of the associated switching unit with the external switching unit in the connection data,

wherein said change operation part changes the type of the connection to the external switching unit from a variable connection type to a fixed connection type in the connection data upon receiving a request to change the type of the connection to the external switching unit, and

the connection data management part stores information on the connection of the variable connection type after the change operation part changes the type of the connection from the variable connection type to the fixed connection type,” as recited in claim 1. (Emphasis added)

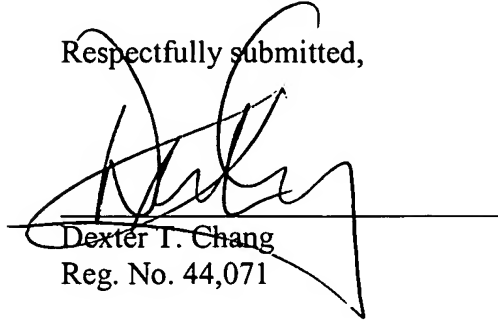
Advantageously, the claimed invention provides for storing information on the variable connection type after the connection type is changed, and, thus, reducing time required for resetting the connection. Applicant refers to page 15, lines 20-34 of the specification for an exemplary embodiment of this feature.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, together with claims 2-7 dependent therefrom, is patentable over Chiu et al. for at least the foregoing reasons. Claims 8-9 incorporate features that correspond to those of claim 1 cited above, and are, therefore, together with claims 10-11 dependent from claim 9, patentable over Chiu et al. for at least the same reasons.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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